

Daphne.Duke

245659

From: Jocelyn.Boyd
Sent: Wednesday, August 07, 2013 11:27 AM
To: Deborah.Easterling; Daphne.Duke; Tricia.DeSanty
Cc: PSC_Attorneys
Subject: FW: Please continue the public discussion on Net Metering

-----Original Message-----

From: Julia Frugoli [mailto:jfrugoli@me.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 07, 2013 11:18 AM
To: Jocelyn.Boyd
Cc: davido@sunstoresolar.com; pmlgrnlw@yahoo.com; brian.franklin@duke-energy.com; timika.shafeek-horton@duke-energy.com; libbysmith@comcast.net; Edwards, Nanette; Hudson, Shannon; chad.burgess@scana.com
Subject: Please continue the public discussion on Net Metering

Dear Commissioner Boyd,

As a net metering customer of Duke Energy in SC I appreciate the PSC's determination to talk about solar energy. I am asking you to please to hold your Sept 12th public hearing on net metering (PSC Docket #2005-385-E) as scheduled. A discussion of solar competition is critical to keeping us on track for catching up to the rest of the nation. While I applaud and admire allowing the advisory committee to complete it's recommendations on how to account for future solar growth and do not wish to discourage that, public discussions are needed at this time. Even if no regulatory decisions are made, keeping the discussion going by holding the hearing is critical to SC's future.

The suggested delay feels like deja vu. When we were building our LEED Platinum house in Central in 2007, we made a major investment in solar electricity, figuring that all the states around us had a net metering system that worked well and how could it take more than a year to move this through the PSC? Unfortunately, attending a PSC meeting opened our eyes to the inherent imbalance of the system-teams of lawyers sent by the power company to "cross examine" any citizen/customer who wanted to testify about the benefits to customers of a decision. The decisions about net metering dragged on until just before we moved in to the house-we could have been out \$45,000 if the PSA regulations had not come thorough. Net metering was established years behind the states surrounding us, but under terms that heavily favor the power companies and require investments like ours. We are well aware we are not the average SC homeowners, and some of the systems being discussed at this workshop are affordable to the average homeowner or non-profit organization-they are in place and work in other states. Can't we learn from them? It's embarrassing to admit that many of the nationally recognized ways to contribute to clean energy are still illegal in SC, and SC still has the highest residential electric rates in the South as of July 2013 (see Charleston Post & Courier of July 7). Discussions such as the Sept 12th meeting are critical to the perception that PSC decisions are made with careful deliberation that involves the rate payers as well as the companies.

Thank you for your consideration,

Julia Frugoli
Central SC homeowner and net metering customer of Duke Energy http://www.leadsc.com/LEED_Site/Welcome.html

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